

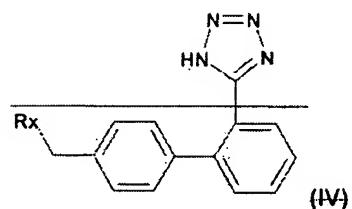
Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

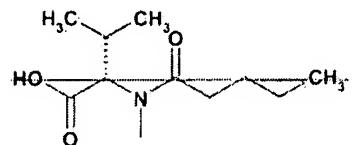
Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (cancelled)

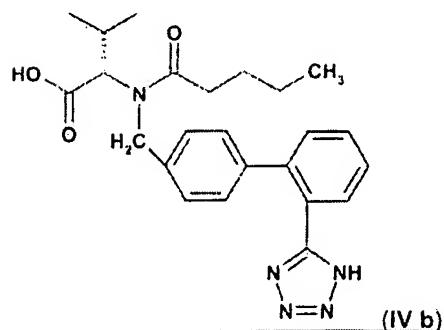
Claim 2 (currently amended): A process according to claim 1 for the manufacture of a compound of formula (IV), (IV b)



or a tautomeric form thereof, wherein Rx is



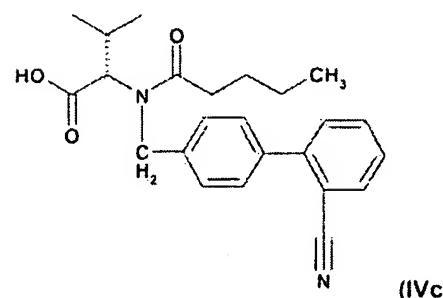
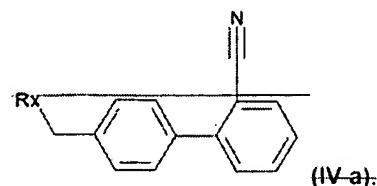
or a salt thereof;



or a tautomer or a salt thereof,

characterized by

(i) reacting a compound of formula (IV-a) (IV c)



or an ester thereof, wherein Rx has the meanings as given above, with a an azide compound of formula $(R_1)(R_2)M-N_3$ (II b), wherein R_1 and R_2 , independently of one another, have the meanings as defined above; and isolating the resulting compound of formula (IV).

represent an organic residue selected from the group consisting of an aliphatic residue, an alicyclic residue, a heteroalicyclic residue; an alicyclic-aliphatic residue; a heteroalicyclic-aliphatic residue; a carbocyclic and a heterocyclic aromatic residue; an araliphatic residue or an heteroaraliphatic residue, each residue, independently of another; and M is boron or aluminium;

wherein,

- an aliphatic residue is C_1-C_{20} alkyl, C_3-C_{20} alkenyl or C_3-C_{20} alkynyl, each of which can be interrupted by NH, substituted NH, O, or S;

- an alicyclic residue is mono-, bi- or polycyclic, selected from the group consisting of C_3-C_6 cycloalkyl and C_3-C_7 cycloalkenyl;

- a heteroalicyclic residue is an alicyclic residue, wherein at least one carbon atom is replaced by a heteroatom selected from the group consisting of NH, substituted NH, O, and S;

- an alicyclic-aliphatic residue is C_1 - C_{20} -alkyl, C_3 - C_{20} -alkenyl or C_3 - C_{20} -alkynyl that is substituted by C_3 - C_8 -cycloalkyl or by C_3 - C_7 -cycloalkenyl;

- a heteroalicyclic-aliphatic residue is C_1 - C_8 -alkyl, C_2 - C_8 -alkenyl or C_2 - C_8 -alkynyl each of which substituted by C_3 - C_8 -cycloalkyl or by C_3 - C_8 -cycloalkenyl wherein one carbon atom of C_3 - C_8 -cycloalkyl or C_3 - C_8 -cycloalkenyl, respectively, is replaced by NH, substituted NH, O, or S;

- a carbocyclic aromatic residue selected from the group consisting of monocyclic, bicyclic and polycyclic, or benzoanellated carbocyclic residue;

- a heterocyclic aromatic residue is 5- or 6-membered and monocyclic radical which has up to four identical or different hetero atoms, selected from the group consisting of nitrogen, oxygen and sulfur atoms, preferably one, two, three or four nitrogen atoms, an oxygen atom or a sulfur atom;

- an araliphatic residue is C_1 - C_8 -alkyl, C_2 - C_8 -alkenyl or C_2 - C_8 -alkynyl each of which is substituted by phenyl or by naphthyl;

- an heteroaraliphatic residue is C_1 - C_8 -alkyl, C_2 - C_8 -alkenyl or C_2 - C_8 -alkynyl each of which is substituted by pyrazolyl, imidazolyl, triazolyl, tetrazolyl, furyl, thienyl or pyridyl; and

- substituted NH is NH which is substituted by C_1 - C_8 -alkyl, phenyl- C_1 - C_8 -alkyl, C_2 - C_8 -alkyl-alkanoyl, phenyl- C_2 - C_8 -alkanoyl, benzoyl, C_1 - C_8 -alkanesulfonyl or benzenesulfonyl; and M is boron or aluminium; and

(ii) isolating the resulting compound of formula (IV b).

Claims 3-12 (cancelled)

Claim 13 (currently amended): A process according to claim ([3]) 2, wherein a compound of formula $(R_1)(R_2)M-N_3$ (II b) is used, wherein M is aluminium or boron; and R_1 and R_2 , independently of one another, is C_1 - C_8 -alkyl; C_3 - C_7 -cycloalkyl; phenyl- C_1 - C_4 -alkyl; phenyl- C_3 - C_5 -alkenyl, or C_3 - C_8 -cycloalkyl- C_1 - C_8 -alkyl.

Claims 14-16 (cancelled)

Claim 17 (new): A process according to any claim 2, wherein a compound of formula $(R_1)(R_2)M-N_3$ (II b) is used, wherein M is aluminium or boron; and R_1 and R_2 ,

independently of one another, is C₁-C₈-alkyl, C₃-C₈-cycloalkyl, C₃-C₈-cycloalkyl-C₁-C₈-alkyl or aryl-C₁-C₈-alkyl.

Claim 18 (new): A process according to claim 2, wherein a compound of formula (R₁)(R₂)M-N₃ (II b) is selected from the group consisting of: dimethyl aluminium azide, diethyl aluminium azide, diisopropyl aluminium azide, dipropyl aluminium azide, diisobutyl aluminium azide, dibutyl aluminium azide, dicyclohexyl aluminium azide, diethyl boron azide, diisopropyl boron azide, dipropyl boron azide, diisobutyl boron azide, dibutyl boron azide, dicyclohexyl boron azide, and diphenyl boron azide.

Claim 19 (new): A process according to claim 2, wherein the compound of formula (R₁)(R₂)M-N₃ (II b), wherein M is aluminium or boron; and R₁ and R₂, independently of one another, C₃-C₇alkenyl which is allyl or crotyl, C₃-C₇-cycloalkyl which is cyclohexyl; phenyl-C₁-C₄-alkyl which is benzyl or 2-phenethyl; phenyl-C₃-C₅alkenyl which is cinnamyl, or C₃-C₈-cycloalkyl-C₁-C₈-alkyl which is cyclopropylmethyl or cyclohexylmethyl.

Claim 20 (new): A process according to claim 2 wherein the ester of a compound of formula (IVc) is an ester derived from an aliphatic or araliphatic alcohol, wherein

- the aliphatic residue is C₁-C₂₀-alkyl, C₂-C₂₀-alkenyl or C₂-C₂₀-alkynyl, each of which can be interrupted by NH, O, S or NH which is substituted by C₁-C₈-alkyl, phenyl-C₁-C₈-alkyl, C₂-C₈-alkyl- C₂-C₁₀-alkanoyl, phenyl-C₂-C₅-alkanoyl, benzoyl, C₁-C₈-alkanesulfonyl or benzenesulfonyl; and
- the araliphatic residue is C₁-C₈-alkyl, C₂-C₈-alkenyl or C₂-C₈-alkynyl each of which is substituted by phenyl or naphthyl.

Claim 21 (new): A process according to claim 2, wherein an ester of a compound of formula (IVc) is an ester derived from an aliphatic or araliphatic alcohol, wherein

- an aliphatic residue is methyl, ethyl, n-propyl, isopropyl, n-butyl, isobutyl, tert-butyl, 2-propenyl, 2-butenyl, 3-butenyl or propargyl, each of which can be interrupted by NH, O, S or NH which is substituted by C₁-C₈-alkyl, phenyl-C₁-C₈-alkyl, C₂-C₈-alkyl- C₂-C₁₀-alkanoyl, phenyl-C₂-C₅-alkanoyl, benzoyl, C₁-C₈-alkanesulfonyl or benzenesulfonyl; and
- an araliphatic residue is benzyl, 2-phenethyl or 2-phenyl-ethenyl.

Claim 22 (new): A process according to claim 2, wherein the ester of a compound of formula (IVc) is an ester derived from an aliphatic or araliphatic alcohol, wherein

- an aliphatic residue is methyl, ethyl, n-propyl, isopropyl, n-butyl, isobutyl, tert-butyl, 2-propenyl, 2-but enyl, 3-but enyl or propargyl; and
- an araliphatic residue is benzyl, 2-phenethyl or 2-phenyl-ethenyl.

Claim 23 (new): A process according to claim 2, wherein an ester of a compound of formula (IVc) is a C₁-C₇alkyl ester or a benzyl ester thereof.

Claim 24 (new): A process according to claim 2, wherein an ester of a compound of formula (IVc) is a benzyl ester thereof.